

and in October and November succeeding, the additional sum of \$10,590 59, which with \$9,683 29, paid by the Register of Wills for Baltimore city, in December, and included by the late Comptroller in his summing up the twelve months' receipts on his account, made an aggregate of \$64,097 13.

It will be seen, therefore, that the receipts from these sources for the fiscal year just ended, exceed the receipts for the preceding twelve months, in the sum of \$5,765 20.

It is believed, this branch of the public revenue will yield more each succeeding year, as the property and wealth of the community increase and business expands.

Some suggestions in relation to a more stringent and uniform system in the collection of these taxes, will be offered to the next Legislature.

### AUCTION DUTIES.

*Statement No. 11*, shows the names of the several auctioneers in the city of Baltimore, who have made returns to the Comptroller, during the fiscal year ended 30th of September, 1854, and the amount of duty paid by each. The aggregate sum received into the Treasury, from this source of Revenue, was \$18,632 67.

By chapter 266 of the Acts of 1853, the proceeds of these duties are appropriated to the city of Baltimore, for the purpose of deepening and improving a channel in the Chesapeake bay and Patapsco river below Fort McHenry.

### BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

The current obligations to the State have been faithfully discharged by this company during the fiscal year. The amount received from it for the State's proportion of the receipts from passengers on the Washington Branch Road, which appears in *Statement No. 12*, amounted, for the year, to \$62,877 53, which is a decrease of \$7,548 85, when compared with the receipts during the fiscal year, ended 30th September, 1853.

It is not difficult to account for this diminution, when it is remembered that last year many thousands of persons were attracted to Washington from all parts of the Union, to witness the Presidential inauguration and the installation of a new Administration. The proof of this may be found in a comparison of the receipts, on this account by the Company in the two months of March and April of the two years. In March 1853, there was received